

Message Text

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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R 280036Z JUL 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2689
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03038

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, CCD, UNGA
SUBJECT: WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS (WEO) GROUP
DISCUSSES MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

1. SUMMARY: AT WEO GROUP MEETING JULY 26 FRENCH REP
SUGGESTED THAT GROUP SHOULD AUTHORIZE CHAIRMAN TO CONSULT
WITH OTHER REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMAN ON COMPOSITION OF
COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT. US, UK, AUSTRALIA AND CANADA
SUGGESTED QUESTION OF PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF NEW
MEMBERS SHOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED AND APPROACHED
WITH CERTAIN CAUTION AND SEVERAL OTHERS (IRELAND, SPAIN)
EXPRESSED VIEW THERE WAS NO NEED FOR HASTY ACTION. NO
DECISION WAS TAKEN AND MATTER WILL REMAIN ON AGENDA FOR
FUTURE MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. AGENDA FOR REGULAR WEO MEETING JULY 26 INCLUDED ITEM
ON COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT (CD). CHAIRMAN
(ICELAND) ASKED IRISH AMB KENNEDY (GROUP CHAIRMAN DURING
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JUNE) TO REPORT ON MEETING GA PRES MOJSOV HAD WITH
REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMAN LATE JUNE 30, LAST DAY OF SSOD.
KENNEDY SAID MOJSOV CALLED CHAIRMEN TOGETHER UNEXPECTEDLY
TO EXPLAIN SIGNIFICANCE OF PARA 120 OF SSOD'S FINAL
DOCUMENT CONCERNING NEW CD. MOJSOV SAID PARA WAS WORKED
OUT AFTER LONG CONSULTATIONS AND IN ESSENCE WAS JOINT
PROPOSAL AGREED BY FOUR NUCLEAR STATES. AFTER OUTLINING

PROVISIONS, MOJSOV TOLD CHAIRMEN THAT IN SELECTION OF 5-8 NEW MEMBERS THE FOUR NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES WOULD IN EFFECT TAKE DECISION IN CONSULTATION WITH HIM BUT THAT HE WOULD NOT BE THE "FOCAL POINT" OF CONSULTATIONS. CANDIDATES WOULD NOTIFY THEIR INTEREST TO HIM THROUGH USYG BUFFUM. THERE WAS NO UNDERSTANDING ON REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION, BUT IT WAS HOPED THERE COULD BE A CONSENSUS ON COMPOSITION. MOJSOV SAID THERE SHOULD BE A DECISION BEFORE SEPT. 19 WHEN HIS TERM AS GA PRES WOULD END. IF THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT BY THEN HE ASSUMED A DECISION WOULD HAVE TO GO ON TO THE 33RD GA. KENNEDY NOTED HE HAD CONVENED INFORMAL MEETING OF WEO'S SAME NIGHT TO INFORM THEM OF MOJSOV'S EXPLANATION.

3. CHAIRMAN TOMASSON SAID HE COULD ADD THAT YUGOSLAV MISSION ABOUT 10 DAYS AGO HAD RELAYED TO REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMAN ORAL MESSAGE FROM MOJSOV THAT HE WOULD BE IN GENEVA AUGUST 13-15 (TO ATTEND CONF TO COMBAT RACISM) AND AVAILABLE THERE TO RECEIVE REPORT ON "CONSULTATIONS AMONG REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMAN" ON CD COMPOSITION. HE AGAIN NOTED "LIMITED ROLE" HE HAD IN THIS MATTER. TOMASSON SAID YUGO MISSION COULD SUPPLY NO CLARIFICATION OF MESSAGE OR FURTHER INFO. HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CONSULTATIONS AMONG GROUP CHAIRMEN ABOUT CD. HE ALSO NOTED THERE WERE AT LEAST 7 WEO'S INTERESTED IN CD MEMBERSHIP. KENNEDY SAID MOJSOV HAD MADE NO MENTION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSULTATIONS AMONG REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMAN AT JUNE 30 MEETING AND THAT CHAIRMAN AT THAT TIME HAD MADE NO PLANS FOR SUCH CONSULTATIONS.

4. AMB DE PINIES (SPAIN) COULD NOT AGREE WITH MOJSOV'S VIEW THAT HIS ROLE WAS NOT IMPORTANT OR INFLUENTIAL. HE ALSO FAILED TO SEE WHY THERE WAS NEED FOR HASTE ON THIS MATTER. SSOD DECISION SPOKE OF PRES OF 32ND GA AND EVEN AFTER 33RD GA BEGAN MOJSOV WOULD STILL BE THE PRES OF THE 32ND GA. CD WAS NOT DUE TO MEET UNTIL JAN 1979. CONSULTATIONS DURING 33RD GA WOULD LEAD TO BETTER RESULT THAN HASTY DECISION DURING NEXT FEW WEEKS. KENNEDY SUPPORTED VIEW THAT HASTE NOT NECESSARY SINCE MOJSOV NEVER CEASES TO BE PRES OF 32ND GA:

5. UK (FIFOOT) NOTED THAT THERE QUITE OBVIOUSLY PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS THAT NEEDED TO BE WORKED OUT AND THESE REQUIRED CAREFUL CONSIDERATION: HE REITERATED THAT UK DID NOT ACCEPT IMPLICATION OF MOJSOV REMARKS THAT NUCLEAR FOUR WOULD DECIDE WHO WERE TO BE NEW MEMBERS OF CD.

6. FRANCE (LENNUYEUX-COMNENE) SHARED UK POSITION ON MOJSOV'S INTERPRETATION AND SAID THERE WAS NO REASON TO GIVE SPECIAL POSITION IN THIS MATTER TO SOME NUCLEAR POWERS. DECISION ON CD COMPOSITION SHOULD BE TAKEN IN MOST DEMOCRATIC WAY POSSIBLE, BEARING IN MIND NEED FOR EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION. HE SUGGESTED WEO GROUP MIGHT TEND TO FAVOR MAXIMUM TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS, I.E. 8 RATHER THAN 5, AND CONSIDER HOW MANY OF THESE SEATS IT MIGHT CLAIM. CHAIRMAN SHOULD CONSULT OTHER GROUPS ON NUMBER OF SEATS AND GROUP SHOULD THEN WORK ON SELECTING ITS CANDIDATES. HE AGREED ON NO NEED

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FOR HASTE AND BELIEVED NEW YORK MIGHT BE BEST PLACE TO HOLD CONSULTATIONS. HE PROPOSED THAT GROUP INSTRUCT ITS CHAIRMAN TO CONSULT PROMPTLY WITH OTHER REGIONAL GROUP CHAIRMEN.

7. FIFOOT SUGGESTED THAT REMARKS ON NO NEED FOR HASTE APPLIED TO QUESTION OF PROCEDURE AS WELL AS TO ACTION ON SELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS. HE URGED CAUTION IN APPROACHING OTHER REGIONAL GROUPS, NOTING THAT THERE WAS MORE TO THIS QUESTION THAN USUAL FORM FOR HANDLING CANDIDATES FOR UN BODIES. CANADA EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH UK AND THOUGHT THERE SHOULD BE CONSULTATIONS IN CAPTIALS, IN NY, AND IN GENEVA BEFORE FINAL DECISION MADE. MISOFF (JONES), ATTENDING AS OBSERVER, NOTED US VIEWS ON PROCEDURE

FOR CONSULTATIONS WERE STILL PRELIMINARY IN NATURE AND AGREED THAT MATTER SHOULD BE APPROACHED CAREFULLY AND WITH CERTAIN DEGREE OF CAUTION. AUSTRALIA (AMB ANDERSON) EXPRESSED AGREEMENT ALSO.

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8. AFTER COMMENT BY MALTA (GAUCI) THAT ALL MEMBERS WERE INTERESTED AND SHOULD BE CONSULTED AND THAT EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION WAS IMPORTANT, CHAIRMAN SAID THIS WAS SUBJECT THAT GROUP WOULD HAVE TO RETURN TO LATER AND MOVED ON TO NEXT AGENDA ITEM. YOUNG

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